GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3485
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2001
SUPPLY OF DRINKING WATER IN RURAL AREAS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural water supply schemes are based on certain set norms;

(b) if so, whether the objective of the schemes, is to provide 40 litres of safe drinking water per person and 30 litres per animal, per day;

(c) if so, whether this objective has been achieved under the schemes;

(d) the areas which qualify for these schemes;

(e) whether coastal areas with brackish water also qualify for this purpose; and

(f) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to rectify this lapse?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the norms drinking water is to be provided at the rate of 40 litres per capita per day. Additional 30 litres per capita per day is to be provided for cattle only in the areas covered under the Desert Development Programme.

(c) to (f) As per the guidelines for implementation of rural water supply programme, a rural habitation is considered covered if 40 lpcd of drinking water is provided to a habitation with a drinking water supply source/point within 1.6 kms of habitation in plains or 100 meter elevation in hilly areas. All the rural habitations of the country are to be provided with drinking water facilities as per the above norms. As per the latest available information furnished by the State Governments till 16.11.2001 out of 14,22,664 rural habitations in the country 12,50,318 rural habitations are fully covered, 1,53, 981 rural habitations are partially covered and only the remaining 18,365 rural habitations are yet to be covered with drinking water supply facilities in accordance with the above norms. These include coastal areas also. However, the State Governments can avail up to 20% of the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme funds released to them for implementing projects under submission programme which may include projects for providing safe drinking water to rural habitations affected by brackishness/excess salinity.